

**MONTEREY COUNTY**  
**Collaborative Action Linking Adolescents (CALA) Program – (\$1,000,000 grant)**

Monterey County's CALA program is anchored in the evidence-based Functional Family Therapy (FFT) model but also incorporates a newly formed Mental Health Court (MHC). The core of the program is the multi-disciplinary case management team comprised of a Senior Psychiatric Social Worker (team lead- providing FFT, intensive case management, interventions and treatment), a Psychiatric Social Worker II (providing FFT, intensive case management and interventions), a multi-lingual Behavioral Health Aide/Family Peer Counselor (providing family support and linkages to community services), and a Probation Officer II (providing community supervision and serves as MHC Officer). This team offers CALA youth and their families support on a 24/7 basis and works with the county's System of Care to ensure the appropriate coordination of services.

Early mental health screening, provided to approximately 900-1,200 youth, will be conducted by a Social Worker III (providing in-custody treatment to program youth as well) and assisted by a Probation Aide. As necessary, minors will be given a full psycho-social assessment by psychiatric staff to determine eligibility into the CALA program. Individuals requiring mental health and/or substance abuse services will either be referred to the county's existing programs or referred to the MHC, which will serve approximately 30 minors and their families during the grant period. A team comprised of Behavioral Health Clinicians, a judicial officer, District Attorney, Public Defender and Probation Officer reviews participant cases and offers support during court proceedings while the presiding Judge provides incentives and/or sanctions tailored to each youth to encourage community integration rather than detention.

In addition to providing FFT services, CALA provides Thinking for Change, an integrated cognitive behavior change program, medication management, family/peer support and several substance use/abuse treatment and education programs, namely Seven Challenges, Integrated Co-occurring Treatment (ICT) and Helping to Educate Adolescents in Recovery and Treatment (HEART).

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